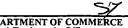


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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO	
10/722,975	11/26/2003	Graeme Colin McKinnon	132156	9041	
7:	590 10/20/2004		EXAMINER		
Patrick W. Rasche Armstrong Teasdale LLP Suite 2600 One Metropolitan Square			ARANA, LOUIS M		
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
			2859		
St. Louis, MO	03102		DATE MAILED: 10/20/2004	DATE MAILED: 10/20/2004	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)				
Office Action Symmony	10/722,975	MCKINNON, GRAEME COLIN				
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit				
	Louis M. Arana	2859				
The MAILING DATE of this communication Period for Reply	appears on the cover sheet wi	th the correspondence address				
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RETHE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CF after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a lf NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period for reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by stany reply received by the Office later than three months after the mearned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	N. R 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a rel. reply within the statutory minimum of thirt riod will apply and will expire SIX (6) MON	eply be timely filed y (30) days will be considered timely. THS from the mailing date of this communication. ANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).				
Status						
1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _	•	·				
2a) ☐ This action is FINAL . 2b) ☑	This action is FINAL . 2b)⊠ This action is non-final.					
	Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is					
closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.						
Disposition of Claims						
4)⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-25</u> is/are pending in the application.						
4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration.						
5) Claim(s) is/are allowed.						
	Claim(s) <u>1-25</u> is/are rejected.					
•	Claim(s) is/are objected to. Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.					
8) Claim(s) are subject to restriction at						
Application Papers		•				
9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.						
10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.						
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).						
11) The oath or declaration is objected to by th						
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119						
12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for form a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority docum 2. Certified copies of the priority docum 3. Copies of the certified copies of the application from the International But * See the attached detailed Office action for a	nents have been received. nents have been received in A priority documents have been reau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).	pplication No received in this National Stage				
Attachment(s)						
 Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 	· —	Summary (PTO-413) s)/Mail Date				
Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/St Paper No(s)/Mail Date	/	nformal Patent Application (PTO-152)				

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

2. Claims 1-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Arz et al. P.N. 6,515,479 (Arz).

Arz discloses a switchable gradient coil for a MRI apparatus. The coil as described in connection with Fig. 2 features a number of independently drivable coil elements. The coil elements can be driven individually or in winding packets. The coil system has selectable performance features among which are the linearity volume or FOV. One of the modes of operation of the coil system (see e.g. claim 2) involves reversing the current flow in a set of windings. This mode of operation corresponds one of the modes as claimed where in one mode the fields add and in the other the fields substract

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producing two corresponding fields of view. Arz. Meets all the limitations of the claims at issue.

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Mckinnon and Vavrek et al. disclose adaptable gradient coil configurations. Note specifically the "Background of the Invention" in Mckinnon col. 2 lines 51-55 that describes the contents of P.N. 5,311,135 to Vavrek et al.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Louis M. Arana whose telephone number is (571) 272-2236. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Thurs. Fridays Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Diego F Gutierrez can be reached on (703) 308-3875. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Primary Examiner
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lma 10/13/04